

news is it's a position shared by the Chinese; it's a position shared by the South Koreans; and it's a position shared by the Japanese. So we've got common interests, and working together, I am very hopeful we'll be able to achieve those interests diplomatically.

Have a great day. Thank you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 12:53 p.m. on the South Lawn at the White House. In his remarks, he referred to former President Saddam Hussein of Iraq; and Gen. Tommy R. Franks, USA, combatant commander, U.S. Central Command. The Office of the Press Secretary also released a Spanish language transcript of these remarks.

Letter to the Speaker of the House of Representatives Transmitting a Supplementary Budget Request for the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission

April 11, 2003

Dear Mr. Speaker:

I ask the Congress to consider the enclosed request for the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC). This request would provide an additional \$18.3 million to the EEOC in FY 2003. It is needed for the EEOC to avoid furloughing its entire workforce for as many as 19 days in FY 2003, which would significantly disrupt its ability to conduct its enforcement responsibilities.

The details of this request are set forth in the enclosed letter from the Director of the Office of Management and Budget. I concur with his comments and observations.

Sincerely,

George W. Bush

NOTE: This letter was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on April 14.

Videotape Remarks to America's Military and Their Families

April 14, 2003

My fellow citizens:

When freedom needs defending, America turns to our military. I want to thank those who wear our uniform. Thank you for your sacrifice. And as our men and women in uni-

form do their job, they count on their families. This time of war has been a time of hardship for many military families. Some of you have been separated from your loved ones by long deployments. You're dealing with added burdens at home while praying for your husband or wife, son or daughter, father or mother far from home. All of America is grateful for your sacrifice.

Over the last few weeks, the world has witnessed what you already know—that our Armed Forces act with great skill and great courage and great humanity. Images of the Iraqi people welcoming our troops in cities across that country are a testament to the character of our men and women in uniform.

Our forces have been given a clear mission, to end a regime that threatened its neighbors and the world with weapons of mass destruction and to free a people that had suffered far too long. American and coalition forces are treating innocent civilians with kindness, delivering urgently needed food and medicine, and acting in the highest traditions of the United States military. Our whole Nation is proud of the honorable conduct of our military, and I am proud to be your Commander in Chief.

All who wear this Nation's uniform have chosen to serve in America's defense and in freedom's cause. You and your families deserve the gratitude of the Nation and the full support of our Government. We will give you the tools and training you need to win our Nation's battles. And we will keep our commitment to improving the quality of life for our military families.

This Nation has made another pledge: We will never forget the men and women who have fallen in service to America. We owe them our freedom. And we pray that their loved ones will receive God's comfort and God's grace.

All of you know that great military successes comes from years of hard work, training, and commitment. You stand tall in times of conflict, and you stand ready in times of peace. For your daily effort, for your professionalism, and for your patriotism, I thank you on behalf of the people of the United States.

May God bless our country and all who defend her.

NOTE: The President's remarks were videotaped at approximately 10:20 a.m. on April 11 in the Map Room at the White House for later broadcast. The videotape was played in the Press Secretary's press gaggle on April 14, and copies of the video were made available but were not issued as a White House Press Release. The Office of the Press Secretary also released a Spanish language transcript of these remarks.

Joint Proclamation by the Heads of Government of Six Countries Regarding the Completion of the Human Genome Sequence

April 14, 2003

We, the Heads of Government of the United States of America, the United Kingdom, Japan, France, Germany, and China, are proud to announce that scientists from our six countries have completed the essential sequence of three billion base pairs of DNA of the human genome, the molecular instruction book of human life.

Remarkable advances in genetic science and technology have been made in the five decades since the landmark discovery of the double-helix structure of DNA in April 1953. Now, in the very month and year of the 50th anniversary of that important discovery by Watson and Crick, the International Human Genome Sequencing Consortium has completed decoding all the chapters of the instruction book of human life. This information is now freely available to the world without constraints via public databases on the World Wide Web.

This genetic sequence provides us with the fundamental platform for understanding ourselves, from which revolutionary progress will be made in biomedical sciences and in the health and welfare of humankind. Thus, we take today an important step toward establishing a healthier future for all the peoples of the globe, for whom the human genome serves as a common inheritance.

We congratulate all the people who participated in this project on their creativity and dedication. Their outstanding work will be noted in the history of science and technology, and as well in the history of humankind, as a landmark achievement.

We encourage the world to celebrate the scientific achievement of completing the Human Genome Project, and we exhort the scientific and medical communities to re-dedicate themselves to the utilization of these new discoveries to reduce human suffering.

His Excellency
Jacques Chirac,
President of the French Republic.

The Honorable
George Bush,
President of the United States of America.

The Right Honorable
Tony Blair, M.P.,
Prime Minister of the United Kingdom.

His Excellency
Gerhard Schroeder,
Chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany.

His Excellency
Junichiro Koizumi,
Prime Minister of Japan.

His Excellency
WEN Jiabao,
Premier of the State Council of the People's Republic of China.

NOTE: An original was not available for verification of the content of this joint proclamation.

Letter to Congressional Leaders Transmitting a Report on Iraq

April 14, 2003

Dear Mr. Speaker: (Dear Mr. President:)

Consistent with the Authorization for Use of Military Force Against Iraq Resolution of 2002 (Public Law 107-243), the Authorization for the Use of Force Against Iraq Resolution (Public Law 102-1), and in order to keep the Congress fully informed, I am providing a report prepared by my Administration. This report includes matters relating to